GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2062
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
SUPPORT PRICE FOR TOBACCO
Baxla Shri Joachim

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tobacco farmers of West Bengal have sought support price in view of low prices in the market;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government proposes to fix a support price for tobacco for the States of West Bengal and North Eastern States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)to(e): The Tobacco Board, Government of India fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for two grades (viz. Black Soil − F2 Gr. And Light Soil − L2 Gr.) of Virginia Flue Cured (VFC) Tobacco on the basis of recommendations made by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The MSP for F2 Gr. and L2 Gr. Of VFC Tobacco for the year 2006-07 are Rs.32.00 and Rs.34.00 per kg. respectively. The MSP is applicable for the entire country including West Bengal and North Eastern States.

Neither the Tobacco Board nor the Government of India has received any proposal from the farmers of West Bengal to fix a support price for tobacco.